

August 7, 1907, and attention is called to a previous overlooked record for the California coast made by the late George N. Lawrence in Vol. IX of the Pacific R. R. Survey Reports (1858, p. 838). The specimen, formerly in the Lawrence collection, is still extant in the American Museum of Natural History. The species, however, is not recorded for the Pacific coast in any of the editions of the A. O. U. Check-List.

Larus canus is again recorded for California, but, as in previous instances, doubtless on a misidentification of *L. brachyrhynchus*, which is not given, though a common species on the California coast in winter.

It is interesting to note that a small breeding colony of the Least Tern is reported as occurring at Moss, near the mouth of the Salinas River. *Fulmarus rogersi* is confessedly recorded as *F. glacialis*! In the A. O. U. Check-List (3d ed.) *Puffinus bulleri* is recorded as: "Range.—New Zealand; north casually to California." Mr. Beck says: "Ten specimens have been taken by me in fall off Point Pinos, double the number recorded from New Zealand seas in Godman's 'Monograph of the Petrels.'" The Black Petrel (*Oceanodroma melania*) was found at frequent intervals and specimens taken from May 27 to September 14, 1907, though apparently not previously recorded north of the Santa Barbara Islands.

A species new to the North American fauna added by Mr. Beck is the Pink-footed Shearwater (*Puffinus carneipes* Gould), a bird not previously reported from the American side of the Pacific, of which Mr. Beck has taken ten specimens near Point Pinos, the first November 23, 1903, the second November 24, 1904, and others in February, April, June, August, September, and November, 1907.

Mr. Beck states that he has "freely incorporated" observations made by Mr. Loomis in his series of well-known papers on California water-birds, and a number of the species are given on this basis, so that while the present list is mainly a summary of Mr. Beck's own work, it also includes species found by Mr. Loomis that the author of the paper failed to meet with.—J. A. A.

Townsend's 'A Labrador Spring.'—This volume¹ is of general as well as of ornithological interest, since it treats of the country in its varied aspects—of fishermen and fur traders as well as birds and plant life—and the phenomena attending the quick transition from snow banks to flowers in the rapid progress of spring in high latitudes.

The captions of the ten chapters convey some idea of its varied contents, namely: A Labrador Spring (pp. 1–35), From Seven Islands to Esquimaux Point (pp. 36–63), An Acadian Village (pp. 64–82), The Courtships of Some Labrador Ducks (pp. 83–102), The Cruise of 'La Belle Marguarite'

¹ A Labrador | Spring | By Charles W. Townsend, M. D. | Author of "Along the Labrador Coast," etc. | With illustrations from photographs [Seal] Boston Dana Estes & | Company MDCCCX — 12mo, pp. xi + 262, with numerous half-tone plates. \$1.50.

from Esquimaux Point to Natashquan (pp. 103-130), Three Modern Cartwrights (pp. 130-148), The Montagnais Indians (pp. 149-179), Wings and Feet in the Air and under Water (pp. 180-205), Some Labrador Trees (pp. 206-219), Some Labrador Rivers (pp. 220-250). Much of the ornithological matter had previously appeared in 'The Auk' (for April and July, 1909, and April, 1910), but the incidental and special references to individual species of birds which occur throughout the narrative portions of the work impart an ornithological flavor to much of the general text, while the nature lover and general reader will find throughout the volume matter of exceptional interest, presented in a spirit of sympathetic appreciation. The work is based on a five weeks trip in May and June, 1909, for recreation and study, and the author has been successful in rendering available to his readers a large share of the pleasure and intellectual profit of the journey. The fifty-six half-tone illustrations add greatly to the interest of the work, which is a worthy successor to the author's 'Along the Labrador Coast.' — J. A. A.

Hartert on the Proper Names of Various Species of British Birds.¹

— British conservatism in matters of technical nomenclature, especially in reference to British species of birds, has been incidentally the subject of remark in this journal on several recent occasions, in reviews of works dealing with British birds. Dr. Hartert, in the present paper, however, confines his attention to a few special cases, namely the correct names of White's Thrush, the Song Thrush and Redwing, the Black-throated and Eared Wheatears, the Black Redstart, British Wrens, British Dippers, and the generic names of the British Swallow and House Martin.

On grounds of priority, it is shown that the name of White's Thrush should be *Turdus aureus* and not *T. varius*; the Song Thrush should be called *Turdus musicus* (not *T. iliacus*) and the Redwing *T. philomelos* Brehm, and the British form of this species *T. philomelos elarkei* Hartert. The Black-throated and Eared Wheatears are declared to be only dimorphic forms of the same species; and that while hitherto known respectively as *Saxicola stapazina* and *S. aurita*, the proper name for the species is *S. hispanica* (Linn., 1758).

The name of the Black Redstart is changed from *Ruticilla tithys* to *Phænicurus ochrurus gibraltariensis*, since *Phænicurus* antedates *Ruticilla*, and the British form is a subspecies of the Caucasian *P. ochrurus*. The name *tithys* usually employed for the British bird, was based on a female of the Common Redstart (*P. phænicurus*).

The British Wrens are considered referable to the genus *Troglodytes*, *Nannus* Billberg being regarded as too slightly different to be entitled to generic separation. Three British subspecies of *N. troglodytes* are recognized, and also two British subspecies of the Dipper.

¹ Notes on Various Species of British Birds. By Ernst Hartert. British Birds, Vol. IV, No. 5, October 1, 1910, pp. 129-136.